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Title: The Age of Scorpius Drama Keeps Getting WORSE

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Transcript

0:00
We finally have some major updates about The Age of Scorpius, where it's going,
0:07
when it's coming out, what's happening, and very importantly, where the author
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disappeared to. Now, normally, I will go over the information in the exact order
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it has come out. However, so that we're all on the same page so that nobody is confused here as to who I'm talking
0:25
about, I need to jump ahead to one little important bit of information
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first. Like I said, just so we're all on the same page, just so nobody is
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confused, and that is that the author of the Age of Scorpius and the creator of
0:41
the world of Guardian is now going by the name Milo. He is a he, he is a him.
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You guys know the video I'm referring to. Anyway, yes. So, when I refer to Milo or Milo Winter, that is who I'm
0:54
talking about. The author of the Age of Scorpius. Are we all Are we all clear? Are we all following? Right. You see why
1:01
I had to jump ahead to that little bit of information that will come up in the information we have. But for now, we
1:08
have some other updates to get to. Now, the last thing we spoke about was that
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there was an update on Patreon that they were going to be pausing Patreon support
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because there wasn't going to be any updates for a while. And this was because Milo was moving and also because
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he was having a hard time with the writing process given everything that had gone on. Now, everything that had
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gone on was quite a big thing. We've talked about it in depth. As you all know, if you're watching this video, my
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video on the Age of Scorpius was and still is the longest video ever on my
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channel because it went over what happened with this book. And just as a
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quick recap, The Age of Scorpius was a book written by Milo Winter that was
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being advertised on Tik Tok for quite a while and it kind of blew up. It got
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like somewhere between 6 to 8,000 pre-orders, which is insane and a huge
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amount and just beyond beyond what any
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indie or debut author would expect. Keep in mind, and I think I spoke about this before, from what I have read online,
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most books in general do not sell more than 500 copies in their lifetime. So to
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have somewhere between 6 and 8,000 pre-orders is massive. It's strange that we still don't have the exact number of
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how many pre-orders it was, but somewhere between 6 and 8,000. However, when the book came out, you will all
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know by now. It was not good. It was simply a bad book. It was dubbed
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unreadable. It was said that the pros were terrible. It was confusing. The writing was
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confusing. The story kind of didn't make any sense. and a lot of other issues with it and uh having read little bits
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of it here and there, I have to agree. It is it is simply not a good book. Now,
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most people were hoping that Milo would go and rewrite this book and take some
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time. Other people were demanding refunds. What ended up happening was a whole rushed process, excuses being

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made, uh people being thrown under the bus, and overall it just left a bad
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taste in people's mouths. A lot of stuff happened. Again, for the full details, watch my full video. But then Milo
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disappeared and uh it was said that he was moving to somewhere else, somewhere
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in Europe. And because of that, people thought this was a whole scam and the move to Europe was tax fraud, which I
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just could not agree with because it didn't make any sense. But now Milo is back and we know what's been happening
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and we have quite a lot of detail actually about this. So the bulk of
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these updates come from Patreon, but also from the World of Guardian website.
4:01
So this was the first one. Everybody say hello to JavaScript. She was screaming at me until I picked her up. Weren't
4:07
you, baby? Uh, she has been extra needy. I don't know if it's because winter is here, but she is just loving her
4:14
cuddles. So, this says unpaused because as established, the Patreon was on pause
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because no posts are being made, and I thought that was a good call. If nothing was actually happening, just pause it
4:26
for a bit. So, this post is by Elrose, illustrator and project manager, and the art is by Salty. Hello everyone. We're
4:34
back in action. Winter's newest piece of writing titled Hide Disturbance will be launching for everyone to read on our
4:41
website very soon. Originally, we wanted to launch it with this post, but there's
4:46
been some lastm minute changes winter needs to implement. Should be ready within the week. New Patreon schedule.
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Moving forward, we're going to slow the pace of posts in order to put less pressure on the team, free up resources
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to pour into the revision process, and ensure we can meet the expectations we set with y'all. We will still be

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providing revision updates, world building posts, and art posts, just less frequently than before. Here's our new
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schedule. Now, as we know, uh the schedule was a bone of contention before
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because everyone was wondering why are you pushing yourself so much to a level
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where you're saying you can't actually meet it when all anybody wants is for you to just write a better book. It
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didn't make sense. But now we we have a new posting schedule, right? So, new schedule first. I got a lot of reading
5:37
to do. So, as we all know, kombucha. I had to do it like that and
5:43
pull it really far away so that I don't scare my cat who is still on my lap. But again, as a reminder, no, I am not
5:50
drinking kombucha because I think it's a miracle drink that's going to cure something. I just like the taste of it.
5:57
It's all okay, guys. Once a month, Winter will provide an author's update with progress on the revision, excerpts,
6:04
and behindthe-scenes look into the process for all patrons. So, not just paid patrons, which there isn't that
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many of them anyway. These will start in December when there will actually be progress to write about. For November,
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which is now, in case you weren't aware, it is somehow November. High Disturbance will take the place of this update. I
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think this is a much more manageable sort of schedule than what was put in place originally, which as we saw, none
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of them were able to meet this. Um, because it was just it was too much. It was too much to do all of those updates
6:39
plus actually write the thing and revise the thing and do all of that. Too much.
6:45
Chapters 2 and three will still be publicly available for free once completed.
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Also, once a month, our editor, Caitlyn, will write a column for patrons providing her perspective on the
6:56
revision's progress that was achieved in the previous month. These will also start in December. I guess this is fine.
7:03
Um, I'm sure people want to hear it. I'm just confused. I'm confused as to why she's doing this
7:09
cuz normally like your editor just provides edits for the book and then you implement those edits and that's just
7:16
kind of the end of it. like this editor is really taking on a very hands-on role. So, I'm not 100% sure. I know
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there's been some comments made, but I'm not sure if she's an in-house editor,
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like as in Milo has hired her as a full-time employee or even a part-time
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employee of this company or if this is just an extra on her role or she's
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trying to get extra experience. I'm not sure. Weekly on Fridays, there will be a post for Moon, which is $5 patrons,
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alternating between worldbuilding, lore drops, and exclusive art/process dives.
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We'll take holiday weeks off for these, but they'll start this week. Since this schedule cuts the monthly post volume in
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half, which I think is a good thing, as as I've said, expect a bit more depth to
8:05
each post. The extra time for writing updates will give Winter and Caitlyn much more ground to cover, and I'll be
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able to put more into each Friday post. If the revised schedule makes you want
8:17
to alter your patronage in any way, I totally understand. If you're sticking around, thank you. We'll see you soon
8:23
for the release of High Disturbance, which, if you might have guessed, we have access to already. And you and I
8:30
together, we are going to read High Disturbance. Um, just a quick look at the comments. I think they were pretty
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positive. People just saying, "Welcome back." Uh, somebody saying, "Eddedit, I didn't realize someone had already asked
8:42
that. Never mind. Does High Disturbance take place in the world of Guardian? Like, is it a short piece set in Guardian or something unrelated?"
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And, uh, they say it's related to Guardian, but it isn't a story set in Guardian. You'll see what this means
8:56
when you read it from Elrose. I guess we will see what we mean. and just more
9:01
people kind of asking questions like that. Very quickly after this, we got a
9:07
Patreon post which was just announcing that this piece of writing, High Disturbance, was out. It's a piece about
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the values behind The Age of Scorpius, its rise and fall, and what's coming
9:19
next. As you're discussing in the comments below, remember our comment policy on the platform. This isn't the
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place for unsolicited advice or critique on Winter's writing or life choices. there's other places to go if you want
9:31
to talk about that. Now, we spoke about this particular thing before how um at
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some point they said, "Yeah, no more uh unsolicited critique on Patreon." I was
9:41
a bit back and forth on it. I wasn't sure how I felt about it. Um other people had different reactions. Some
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people were very against this, saying, you know, you're you're promoting a product, you're asking for money, like
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people have the right to critique. And they do. They definitely do. However, I feel like on the Patreon, most of these
10:01
posts are free. So, this post here is a free post. And so,
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it is kind of their space and their right to say, "Well, no, this is us sharing stuff um for free. We don't
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really want critique here." Because there are other platforms for critique. There's uh I said critique so weirdly
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there. There's threads, there's Tik Tok, there's Goodreads, there's YouTube,
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there's so many other places that are more geared towards the readers. And those reader spaces are important for
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people to be able to give their honest reviews and opinions on stuff. But for here, I I do think at this point they're
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well within their rights to say that that's just not what we want on this space. And I think that's fair enough. I
10:48
mean, you can have your own opinions about this. You can disagree with me. A lot of people will disagree with me there because like I said, there's a lot
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of people who see this as, well, you've put out a book, you've put out art into the public, and people can critique it.
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They can, but when it's your own sort of space and your own platform that you're
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cultivating, you can stop it. Obviously, there's levels to this. There's situations where
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it goes too far. It's very nuanced is what I'm trying to say. But I think for the most part in this specific
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situation, it's fair enough. Now that I've gotten that yap out of the way, let's read High Disturbance. So, we have
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a picture of a tree on fire. Low disturbance and high disturbance. Okay.
11:33
Okay. Let's get into this. This is going to be quite the read. So, everybody uh
11:38
get a snack or some water. I'm going to hydrate because I'm the one who has to read this out loud.
11:46
Right. So, this was written by Milo in case we're confused because some of the
11:52
Patreon posts are not. Actually, most p Patreon posts are not. Forestry is a
11:57
passion of mine, one that appears on the very first chapter of The Age of Scorpius. Conviction Woods is a cursed
12:04
temperate rainforest resembling Tongas. Tongus, Tongus, N National Forest.
12:10
Jesus, that word threw me for a loop. the largest cold rainforest in the world at nearly 17 million acres. I started my

12:19
journey as a naturalist three years ago when I began guiding van and boat tours in Colorado and Alaska. While advancing
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through a degree in restoration ecology, I volunteered, worked, and studied in
12:32
the Tongas, Roosevelt, and Arapoa,
12:37
Arapaho. Arapo. I'm sorry, guys. I'm going to get my glasses so I can read this better. Natural forests. Most
12:44
recently, I toured guests out of Denver for sightseeing and hiking hiking in Rocky Mountain National Park. I swear to
12:51
God, I'm not going to read this whole post like this. I just I need to get my glasses. Hold on. After I published a
12:58
shitty book, I guess we're acknowledging that now. That's That's good. That's growth. and became the most hated author
13:05
of the year. I drove toward a wildfire in the Colorado Rockies where smoke
13:10
hazed the sky and a red sun glared through the atypical September heat. I hadn't been bothered to look up the
13:16
fire's exact location. If my favorite canyon was a flame, I would have found myself blindly amidst a wildfire. At the
13:24
time, walking myself into a wildfire would have been no more than a spark in my burning life. I was already standing
13:30
at death's edge after barely surviving the week prior. I ignored my raw throat and strained lungs from the ashladen
13:37
air. Those were becoming mundane grievances with each summer. I lived in Colorado. Through the passing years, I
13:44
have watched annual plumes of smoke thicken on the silhouette of the foothills, the rising number of fire
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impacted acres, the increased frequency of fire weather warnings, and the 70°ree
13:56
summers at top the alpine tundra. Now, the only comment I'm going to make here is I think some people are going to
14:04

take issue with part of this because people have accused Milo in the past of
14:09
sort of not baiting but using sort of I'm in a dark place. I'm not doing well.
14:16
Uh this is the only thing that matters in my life and it's taken away. like kind of alluding to being in danger and
14:22
taking it to be a bit manipulative um and saying, you know, you need to go and
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get help if this is genuinely the situation. And I do agree that you do
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need to go get help if that's genuinely the situation. But this seems to me more
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like a retrospective look into what's been going on when I think if that's the
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case, you know, share that that's how you're feeling. This to me so far
14:51
doesn't feel like any kind of ploy for pity. It's just literally, yeah, I was not doing good. Um, and I went to a
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wildfire and just, you know, if I'm burned up in it, who cares? Which is, you know, not
15:04
good. But I think it's honest. During my Colorado tours, curious guests
15:10
often ask me about the blackened trunks and charred trees from the 2020 Cameron
15:15
Peak fire. had explained the increase in severity of wildfires in the American West. They'd follow up with an inquiry
15:22
as to why those massive fires were happening. Though I'd first emphasized the larger threat of climate change,
15:28
folks always seem surprised when my answer to their question was much longer. And like the fuel that set flame
15:34
to my name, misunderstanding is the root of the reason why wildfires burn the
15:39
crowns of the forest. Okay, I I get this is sort of like a I did
15:48
just say this is a retrospective and I get that this is supposed to be sort of like a piece about your feelings and
15:54
that can, you know, give way to more a more poetic way of saying things, but
16:00
maybe comparing yourself to a wildfire is just it's a little bit much. And

16:08
especially when we're still saying the reason that his book didn't do well was
16:14
because people didn't understand it. And that to me,
16:19
it's a little bit of an exhausting point that's being made because he's brought it up a couple of times like, oh, people
16:24
just don't understand my writing where it's just like, well, no, the book was just not good
16:30
and a lot of the things you did and said afterwards were not good. like the the trying to say, "Oh, you know, the
16:36
editors didn't give good enough edits when you had already admitted I didn't have enough time to implement edits
16:42
because I was busy fulfilling pre-orders." So, it can't really be both. It can't be the editor's fault.
16:49
And also that you were just too busy. Because like I've said in the previous videos, I'm not trying to be harsh here,
16:55
right? I'm I'm genuinely not. I'm just giving you my opinion. Like I've said in previous videos, this is just a case of
17:03
a misalignment of this person's expectations
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or themselves. They had this big thing in mind. Whereas I don't think they
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actually care about being a writer. I don't think he cares about the craft of writing. And I've said this. Um now this
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piece in itself is beautifully written. I will say that it's really lovely and
17:30
obviously there is some writing skill there and the fact that maybe he hasn't
17:36
cared about the actual writing and has only cared about the world building in the past that doesn't necessarily mean
17:42
that he's never going to be a good writer. And I've reiterated this like the book was bad but you can still learn
17:49
and write a good book. When I was 21, 22, Milo's age now, I wrote a terrible
17:57
book. I just didn't do anything with it.
18:02

That was the end of it. Had anybody read that book, they would have known it was really, really bad. Now, there is a
18:08
difference of, you know, the the pre-orders and the hype and the hyping yourself up and the twisting of the truth, like having the the editor from
18:15
the Hunger Games, which is not the case. Um, but it's it's just like you just
18:23
wrote a bad book and you can learn how to be a good writer. Like that's the end of it. That is the end of it. But still
18:29
trying to put it down to a misunderstanding is a little bit frustrating for me to be
18:35
perfectly honest. Though a warming climate contributes to fires with increased drought and
18:41
outbreaks of mountain pine beetles, a larger issue behind high disturbance forest fires draws back to
18:48
preservationist fire suppression in the 20th century. Preservation is defined by the National Park Service as hands-off
18:55
management and no use land. By contrast, conservation, the preferred modality of
19:01
today's environmentalists, properly uses nature with the goal of effectively managing the health of the forest.
19:08
Indigenous practices across the world have known this much longer than we have. Like most things to be honest,
19:16
unlike the western tendency to protect nature with the hands-off approach, ind
19:22
wow, indigenous beliefs often consider humans as part of the ecosystem. The
19:27
first people of the American West understood that the Rocky Mountain forests were not only fire adapted, but
19:33
that they required routine low disturbance burns to maintain the health of the forest. I'm going to say none of
19:41
this is about the age of Scorpius so far in this part, but it's really really interesting to me because I had no idea about any of this. However, the new
19:49
European settlers who established federal natural land protections didn't carry the same knowledge as the
19:55

indigenous tribes whose homes had been North America for centuries prior to colonization. In hubris, these settlers
20:03
rejected any knowledge from the people whose lands they were stealing. Thus, 1900's preservationbased protections
20:10
stumped out any and all fires. Decades of this practice amassed flammable
20:15
organic materials in the underbush, crafting the perfect recipe for fire fuel in forests weakened by climate
20:22
change. This just one of the ways the wounds of colonaliza colonization
20:29
are still with us today. You want to know another way? You want to know another way it's still with us? Give us
20:35
back our six counties. Give them back. What are you doing?
20:42
God's sake. I don't know if that's like a controversial thing to say. I simply
20:47
don't care, though. Restoration ecologists now face a seemingly impossible challenge for high
20:53
disturbance fire mitigation. There is more underbush fire fuel than humans who are available to assist with control
21:00
burns. With the overarching climate crisis, the negligence and misunderstanding of the functioning of
21:06
the ecosystem burns so fiercely that it licks the crowns of our breathing giants.
21:12
Whoa, that was too far. Our breathing giants, the same giants who saved my
21:18
life. As I sat in a canyon forest, I blinked away the tears, blurring my sight of a cottonwood across the river.
21:25
She stood still, unwavering. There was no breeze, no bird call, only her presence, mine, and the sound of a
21:33
rushing brook. The cottonwood didn't shake or waver in the face of an approaching fire. She had no control
21:39
over its path. Did I have to Google what a cottonwood is? Yes, because I just
21:44
assumed it was a bird. Apparently, it's a tree. No, I'm dumb. I'm sorry. I don't
21:51

even know if we have these in Ireland. Probably we do, though. Those those look like trees I've seen. Maybe not, though.
21:58
But I think what Milo is trying to get at here is that like this whole
22:04
situation reminded him like, okay, that all everything's burning down, but there
22:09
is nothing that any tree can do. It's just happening. You just got to accept
22:15
it. So, I think this is like leaning into and I accepted the fires that were burning around me, which to a degree is
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actually like a really good lesson to take from this to a degree because a lot
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of the stuff was okay, people are saying bad things about my book. I should just
22:35
let them say it and I should work on my craft instead of, you know, pouring
22:41
pouring fuel on the fire for lack of a better word or better phrase. Um, but
22:46
unfortunately that is what Milo did. He he kind of made things worse and then also rushed to try and correct things.
22:54
But let's see where this is going. Right. As I wrote down the details of my surroundings in my pocket notebook, I
23:01
cried with the realization of how I needed to take her silent advice. If she had caught fire, she either would
23:07
survive and thicken her bark, or she would die to let the future forestry grow. I had two choices. I would either
23:13
endure the flame, thicken my skin and grow higher, or I would let it burn me alive to pave the way for my rebirth.
23:20
Um, this is what I'm hoping the lesson is going to be from this to grow a thicker skin, to take this as a lesson
23:28
to work on your craft and keep going rather than making excuses, throwing
23:35
everyone under the bus, you know, saying this, that, and the other. Also, there's like obviously the
23:41
mental health aspect here, but I don't really want to speculate on somebody's mental health too much. Plus, he's going

23:48
to tell us here, right? And uh I I don't think I need to speculate. One thing I'm
23:54
going to say before we uh move on with this post though, please do not walk into a wildfire.
24:00
Please don't do that. I feel like I shouldn't have to say that, but I don't want this to be a lesson to anybody to
24:06
walk into a wildfire. Um just don't do it, please. Not for any kind of like
24:13
mental epiphany or anything. It's just dangerous. Don't do it.
24:19
I slipped into a mental health episode that same night, one so severe that I was unconscious for close to 3 days. I
24:26
woke only to eat, drink, and take care of my animals. My terror, stress, and heartbreak were so intense that I did
24:32
not want to be conscious and feel them. It was the apex of a spiral that had begun in July and worsened each day. So,
24:39
since the release of the book and the negative reviews that came in, I ended
24:44
up taking the middle path of the cottonwood. I would stay grounded to fearlessly accept the heat and set
24:50
myself on fire to grow back stronger. Please do not set yourself on fire,
24:56
Milo, for God's sake. This is getting a little bit melodramatic here. Obviously,
25:01
uh Milo's alive and well. This is why I can make this joke, but uh do not walk
25:07
into wildfire. Though dangerously close to death, I fought with the strange sense that
25:13
something good was coming. I struggled to describe it, but I intuitively
25:18
understood that I needed to face north and sprout. Okay,
25:24
again, I feel like I shouldn't have to say this. I'm glad everything worked out for you, Milo, and uh you're alive and
25:30
something good happened to you as of this, but please, if you happen to be in a forest fire, do
25:38
not go something's going to happen good if I just go that way. follow the
25:44

logical path. And the logical path is wherever leads you out of there. Okay? Just get out right out. But clearly from
25:52
what he's saying here, he was not in a good mental state at this time. So which is why I'm saying do not take this as
25:58
any kind of advice for what you should be doing. Do I keep needing to like give the this disclaimer to not walk into a
26:05
forest fire? I think you guys get it right. Please do not do it. Um anyway,
26:11
where was I? I struggled to describe it, but I intuitively understand that I needed to face north and sprout. The
26:17
skeleton of my burned forest had to be left in the past. With that in mind, I decided I would only fight harder for my
26:24
passion. I booked a ticket to Helsinki, Finland, and gave myself 2 weeks to move
26:29
out of my apartment. So, this is confirmation that there was a move to Finland. Now, I don't think he's in
26:35
Finland at the moment, but we'll get to that. Um, but that was something that we spoke about in a previous video and with
26:41
the whole tax thing, which I still think is a bit silly. Over the past two months, I watched as the internet's
26:48
anticipation grew, even with my face a mystery, even with my voice absent.
26:54
Content creators dug for any signs of life underneath my ashes. That's me.
27:01
Okay. Clawed at my apartment, subleas listening to try understand each of my moves. That's not me.
27:08
The pressure crushed my shoulders. I caught flame and burned alive for all to see. My sides pointed to death. The
27:15
spark started by my own killed the last of my life. Okay, we're getting a little
27:21
bit melodramatic here, but let's let's give it I listen. I am a dramatic [__] right? I am nothing if not
27:28
melodramatic. So real recognizes real here, okay?
27:34

But I refuse that fate. I am a survivor. I have always been. I know how to fight my battles and overcome adversity. Each
27:41
time I burn, each time I lose all, I rise stronger than before. Rise like a
27:46
phoenix. Do you guys know that song or was that just really random? My Europeans know that song at least. The
27:52
forest has always been adapted to the flame. The lodge pole pine for example has a serotinous pine cones.
28:03
Well, you are using big words that I do not know. Okay. And I'm good with words, but I do not know these naturalist
28:08
stuff. Maybe I should learn actually that that's going to be my my job for the next month to learn some stuff about
28:14
trees cuz it's kind of embarrassing how little I know about trees.
28:19
Serotinus pine cones that open and release their seeds when exposed to the intense heat
28:25
of a blaze. My rebirth comes from the un from underneath the charred trunks and
28:31
blackened stones. My saplings are nurtured by the north-facing sun. Though this forest will be go regrow slowly, it
28:38
will be tougher now. It is new. No underbrush to catch flame. I am shielded
28:43
by the shadow of my own death. I face forward towards the north. I do not look
28:49
back to the south behind me. I take the gentle warmth of the sun and pull myself from the dirt. I Okay, so this is how
28:56
Milo is seeing this whole situation. I'm going to give you my thoughts, right, as on personal journeys. I'm not saying
29:02
like my way is the best way or I'm right. Like everybody's going to take their own
29:07
journey. But I do think seeing your past self as a death is not necessarily a good thing. Like I don't talk about like
29:15
mental health stuff on this channel anymore, but back in the day OG's know that I did. Um and one of the things I
29:22

that had come up a lot was like people's ability to change and grow and be different, right? And I feel let's say
29:29
when I was 22, right? about 30 years ago. Uh when I was 22,
29:38
don't like her. Not a fan of her. Definitely was not um my best self or
29:45
even younger than that was not my best self. But I don't see that as,
29:51
you know, somebody else. Like that's that's a different that's a different person. That version of me is dead. The
29:57
old Eva can't come to the phone right now. Why? because she's like I don't see it that way. I personally see it as like
30:03
if you just kill off your past self, you're kind of taking away your own
30:08
responsibility to yourself, not to anybody else. To
30:13
correct your mistakes, to learn from the bad parts of yourself and
30:19
work on those bad parts, but also then to nurture the good. Like if you have a
30:24
complete rebirth, right, you're just starting fresh and
30:30
you're ignoring everything that came before. And that's not really possible because
30:36
those bad tendencies, those negative parts of your personality or yourself or
30:42
your behaviors or your traits, they're still going to be there under the surface. you haven't actually worked to
30:47
fix them or you haven't worked to feel differently about maybe the things
30:54
you've experienced or the way things have gone. You haven't forgiven yourself for some things, but you're also not
31:00
allowing yourself to nurture the bits of you that you really like, which are always going to be there. Like I was
31:05
always somebody who said like, "Oh, I don't like anything about myself. Hate myself." I don't think that was true cuz
31:11
once I started working on the bad parts, I was like, actually, there's lots of like really nice bits about me that I

31:17
like and I can nurture and I can bring to the forefront. But if I had one day said, okay, I don't like who I am. I'm
31:23
just going to start again. Like, you can say that, but everything about you is still there, you know,
31:29
under the surface, and it's just being buried instead of being worked on, pruned, if you will. Um, now again, I'm
31:38
not saying this is the best choice for everybody, right? I'm not an expert. This is just how I feel about it. Um,
31:44
this whole rebirth thing, it it it to me it always feels like, you know, the
31:50
whole thing about a boat, right? If a a boat is sailing for like seven years, and over those seven years, different
31:56
pieces get uh replaced and repaired until, you know, all the pieces that
32:02
were once there have now been replaced. Is it still the same boat kind of thing? And I would say, well, yeah,
32:09
it is. It is the same boat. The same with people. Um, I don't know, maybe I'm
32:16
reading too much into this, but it is a very, you know, it's a think piece. So, I'm going to read into it. I will regrow
32:23
this forest step by step. I will heal the ecosystem, beginning with this piece. Let me tell you how hot a high
32:30
disturbance fire burns. the one that came from the spark of publishing an absolutely terrible book again. Uh, at
32:38
least we're recognizing that. Oh, right. I'm Audra Winter, the one author who
32:43
went viral for my bad writing. What does ecological education have to do with addressing the controversy in capital
32:51
letters? I'll talk about it, don't worry. First, I wanted to speak toward a larger controversy, one that will affect
32:57
every single one of us. I made a vow to myself as a naturalist that any voice I was given, any platform I could stand
33:04

on, I would try to raise awareness for all the wild places we call home. The world is burning and I will burn with
33:10
it. We are not taking enough action for the climate. It must be done now.
33:18
Milo, of all the things I've disagreed with you on, this is good. Always use your platform for good instead of evil.
33:26
Fix planet. makes planet good. I love how like I'm so Okay, can I be so
33:34
real for a second, guys? I'm just really tired today and I'm also on my period.
33:40
So, as I'm reading this beautifully written piece, I'm like, duh. Cuz my brain is
33:47
not working at all. But I really wanted to record this video today. So, I'm
33:53
sorry. I know I sound like an idiot compared to this. I swear I'm not actually a stupid person. I just sound
33:58
that way today. The first step to movement is understanding. So, let me retell the story. As it was, the truth
34:05
behind each whisper and rumor. I couldn't breathe through the smoke. I needed time to let it clear my lungs.
34:11
Writing this piece was so intensely personal and vulnerable that I had to step out of the flame to first gather my
34:18
bravery. But art requires vulnerability, and I cannot be an artist without first
34:23
being vulnerable. So, here goes nothing. My name is Milo Winter. I'm the creator of the world of Guardian. And this is
34:30
what it's like to become hated for the thing I love the most.
34:36
Wow. That me knocking stuff over after reading like the big climax of that
34:42
really speaks to the state of my mind today. Yeah, I know that was like a big reveal and I kind of spoiled it at the
34:49
beginning of this video, but like as established, I kind of needed to uh otherwise I was going to be referring to
34:55
him completely incorrectly until we got to this part, which just felt unnecessary and kind of rude. So, sorry

35:03
for the spoiler, but I'm not actually sorry. But in case you think I'm
35:09
misinterpreting it here, he also adds a footnote that says, "You should open the source links. The environment is way
35:15
more important than my gender identity. Just wanted to give you another talking point so I can bring attention to what
35:20
matters to all of us. However, I am also not joking. Yes, I am a transgender man
35:26
and yes, I go by Milo now. So, I did check this before saying things. On July
35:32
28th, my peaceful morning Tik Tok FY scroll was abruptly interrupted as I
35:38
scrolled upon a video from another independent author. He was talking about how he just finished the worst indie
35:44
book he'd read in a long time. As any reasonably paranoid author would, I kept
35:50
watching his video. Though the other author said he wasn't naming names, he proceeded to talk about pre-order
35:56
numbers that I had accomplished. I felt my heart drop with each sentence he spoke. He lectured on the importance of
36:02
hiring editors and quality control in independent publishing. Horror rushed over me. He'd presented false
36:09
information that my book wasn't edited as concrete fact.
36:18
This is in Let me explain to you why this is so
36:23
irritating to me. Because you all know I go into this with so much good faith,
36:29
right? Like I expect, oh, he's going to have learned ch changed his tune. But
36:35
anybody who has followed this story knows that when things kind of started
36:42
to get bigger and it became more of a controversy than just bad reviews, one
36:48
thing that Milo was doing was saying that this all started because of one Tik
36:55
Tok that somebody made. Now, I am not going to name this person because I just
37:00

feel like he's being dragged under the mud for absolutely no reason. But yes, somebody on Tik Tok who is an
37:07
independent author has a small account on Tik Tok way less than Milo made a Tik
37:14
Tok saying, "I just read a book and it's one of the worst I've read in a while and I don't think it it doesn't read like it's edited."
37:21
That is fine. He did not name Milo. He did not name
37:27
the book. The only indicator was the pre-order numbers, but he was very respectful in
37:33
not naming the book. And beyond that, you don't really owe
37:38
anybody anything. Like, as long as you're not attacking them, it's fine. He gave his honest opinion on The Age of
37:46
Scorpius, and that was that it was bad and read like it hadn't been edited, which is the conclusion that a lot of
37:52
people came to. The problem is Milo has tried to claim that the reviews were
37:57
overwhelmingly good until this one small account who did not name him and did not
38:03
name the book said that he didn't like it, which is untrue.
38:10
The reviews were bad from the beginning. Most people did not see this Tik Tok.
38:17
This was not the thing that made people start turning against it. What made people start turning against it was the
38:24
fact that this was a bad book, which I thought at the beginning of this post that we were beginning to accept and
38:31
that was a good start. But now we're going back to, oh, this one random person made a Tik Tok. And it's just
38:37
irritating because I cannot tell whether Milo is actively and purposefully
38:44
misrepresenting the truth or whether he actually believes this
38:50
because either way the facts are not there to support this. That is not what
38:57
happened. And one random person with a small account saying he read a book that he didn't like without naming it is not

39:06
is not the thing that turned the tides on people's opinion of your book. All it
39:12
was was that it wasn't good. So, can we stop like throwing [__] at this random
39:18
dude who made a Tik Tok? Like, it's it's nasty and it's it's kind of gross
39:24
at this point. It's just unnecessary. There's no reason to do this. There's
39:29
absolutely no reason to do this. He was talking about how he'd finished
39:35
the worst book he'd read in a long time. I kept watching his video, though the author didn't say he was saying names.
39:42
He talked about pre-order numbers. I felt my heart drop with each sentence he spoke. He lectured on the importance of
39:48
hiring editors and quality control in independent publishing. Horror rushed over me. He'd presented false
39:55
information that my book wasn't edited as concrete fact. No,
40:02
no, that's that's not what happened because you just said there he lectured on the
40:08
importance of hiring editors. That is hinting that he believes that your book was not properly edited, but that is not
40:16
in any way presenting false information as concrete fact. Because when you're
40:22
saying it like that, you're saying it like that's a legal statement, right? And you guys will know we read a lot of
40:28
legal stuff here and always there's going to be an element of defamation in there. YouTubers love their defamation.
40:37
Can't say I blame them. People be saying some wild stuff, but we read a lot about
40:42
defamation. And for something to be defamation, you need to say something as
40:48
exact fact. Saying, I don't know, I feel like this wasn't edited. Like it's really important to get editors blah
40:53
blah blah blah blah. That is not defamation. That's an opinion. If I was to sit here and say Milo Winter killed a
41:00

man and present that to you as facts. Say, I don't have any proof, but he did
41:07
it. By the way, I I'm I do not believe that Milo Winter killed a man, so we're
41:13
all clear. Don't sue me. That's defamation.
41:18
But this is not This is an opinion. And the fact of the matter is your book read like it wasn't edited. And you yourself
41:26
have said that you were so busy with fulfilling the pre-orders that you did
41:31
not have time to give the correct amount of effort into the edits.
41:40
You said that. So this false narrative that this random Tik Tok was your downfall is just
41:48
ridiculous. It is ridiculous. And at this point, I'm just starting to get pissed off. Like, I really am. Like, I
41:54
have no hate to Milo at all. Like, I really am rooting for him. I know sometimes I get frustrated. I feel like
42:00
the big sister here who's like, "Just stop. Get it together." But like, I still want him to do well. I still want
42:06
him to learn and grow as a writer and a creator and somebody who's online. But this is getting old. It's getting old.
42:13
It's not true. I feel like I have to say it in every single video. I'm just repeating myself. You need to stop this.
42:19
You need to stop this narrative that that is what happened because it's not. Somebody made a Tik Tok saying they
42:26
didn't like your book. Didn't even name your book. Lots of people made Tik Tok saying they didn't like your book. People made YouTube videos saying they
42:32
didn't like your book. And you know why? Because they didn't like your book. And that's unfortunate. And I'm sorry that
42:38
that hurts cuz I'm sure it does. I'm sure it's really, really awful. And it's every author's worst nightmare.
42:44
But you can't just pin it on this one dude. It's so unfair.
42:49
It's horrifically unfair. Let's just continue. Within hours of

42:55
this video going viral, I faced an inferno of my nightmares racing at me. I
43:00
had done everything I could to put out a strong book.
43:09
Has there been any growth? Has there been any growth? Has there been any growth? Besides, sorry, I'm going to
43:16
calm down cuz I'm getting annoyed. Besides the realization that you need to
43:21
pick yourself up and keep going and keep fighting and keep working towards your
43:27
goal, has there been any growth? I don't think so. I'm not seeing it here.
43:33
Because again, I feel like a broken record here. You yourself admitted that you were so busy
43:40
fulfilling pre-orders that you did not have time to properly implement the edits that your editors suggested to
43:47
you. That you did not properly implement the edits that your editor suggested to
43:55
you. Therefore, you did not do everything you could to create a strong book. You did everything you could to
44:02
ship out a product that I won't deny.
44:07
But you did not do everything within your power to make this a good book. Because again, if you guys don't know,
44:15
Milo has said that his revision process has been when he gets edits, he just rewrites the book from the start. And as
44:21
I have said, that just means you are creating endless first drafts.
44:26
And your first draft is always terrible. I don't care how wonderful of a writer
44:31
you are. You could be the best writer in the world. And in fact, this will happen to the best writers in the world, the
44:38
biggest writers, the most popular writers, everybody. Your first draft is
44:43
a piece of [__] It's awful. It's really bad because the point of the first draft
44:50
is just to figure out what you're trying to write, like write it down, and there's going to be inconsistencies. You're going to have weird kind of

44:56
wording sometimes. You're going to have redundant wording. You're going to have like mistakes that are made or things
45:01
that are missed or plot holes in it or bits of things that you forgot you started writing, characters you forgot
45:08
about even. It's always a mess. So, starting from the beginning is not
45:13
revising. It is not editing. It's creating a new first draft. And a first draft is never ever ever going to be a
45:19
strong book. Now, I'm not saying that she didn't do any editing on her draft, right? I'm not saying I'm not trying to
45:25
claim I'm not trying to defame that she put out her first draft, but I don't believe she wrote enough versions,
45:33
enough drafts. Like, okay, we're going to talk about me again. We're doing it again, guys.
45:39
My book. I truly and honestly do not know how
45:45
many drafts I wrote of this, how many versions of this book there was because this has been in the works for years,
45:51
right? Originally, this was a YA urban fantasy. This book is not a YA urban
45:57
fantasy. This is an adult dark fantasy secondary world.
46:03
So, originally this was a completely different story. The only thing that was the same was the mermaids, the Marrow,
46:08
right? That was the only thing that was the same. And the island of Inosalta, those were the only things. But beyond
46:15
that, it was completely different. Like in the original version was about a girl who lived in Gway
46:20
and her granddad died. She just lived in Galway. H it was one
46:27
of those stories, right? And then I wrote several versions. Then it was based in like actually one of the
46:34
characters parents was the main character. Then I f I think I went back
46:40
to YA and then it was okay. No, now it's YA but it's secondary world. It's not

46:45
urban fantasy. I had a whole big bunch of characters and they were all best buds and it was more of like friends on
46:52
a quest. So those were versions of the book until I finally got to the first draft of this
47:00
book, right? All of that came before the first draft. Cuz when I finally got to the first draft, that was when I had the
47:05
actual story, right, of what this story is now about Turan Branlock on Inish Ala
47:13
with the AI and everything else that goes on.
47:18
But then so many changes were made to the story and what the story was actually about that I got to a new first draft. Right? Many many many many edits
47:26
later, I got to a new first draft because I changed so much about what this story was actually about while
47:32
still sticking to the core roots of the story that I had to do a new first draft. Then we did that and the first
47:38
draft was horrible, horrible. The pacing was horrible. There was a completely
47:45
redundant character who was made really important in the beginning and then just kind of disappeared towards the end
47:50
because I had wanted him to be an antagonist, but then like I changed my mind about him being the antagonist. So,
47:56
he was just kind of left there. The characters weren't fleshed out properly. The language was weird. I described the
48:03
stones far too much. One thing that my editor actually was still in the book, one thing that my editor was like,
48:09
"Please stop describing the stones. Everything is salty and full of stones. please. So, okay, I'll fix that.
48:16
This I cannot tell you how many edits that got until I got to what draft was I on? I have no idea. Fifth.
48:24
Fifth, maybe sixth before it even went to my editor. It was probably more than
48:29
that to be honest you until it went to my editor. Then it went to my editor and it got a further

48:37
I don't even know. This is the thing. Three, four edits. not a revision of start to finish of like rewriting the
48:43
whole book and writing a new first draft. No, new drafts of the book. And then it got sent, you know, for line
48:50
editing and copy editing and all those took several more drafts. And then I had
48:56
my final thing and I was like, "Okay, I need to do another thing. Change more stuff. Another draft. Another draft." I
49:02
don't know how many drafts of this thing there was. I'm going to guess 15. Right.
49:07
That's the number I'm taking off the top of my head. But that's 15 after I got to the final version of the first draft.
49:14
There were many first drafts before that, but I do not count them as the edits of this book because they were not
49:20
this book. They were first drafts. They were a mess. They were still trying to figure out what the story was and what I wanted to do. Once I got there, then I
49:28
made edits. Then I had the drafts and I'm guessing 15. That's that is my
49:34
guess. Um, point being, I just don't believe that Audra or sorry, Milo,
49:42
apologies for that. I'm still getting used to it. I have been using his old name in many videos again for the
49:48
longest video I have on my channel. So, it's going to take me a second. I don't think he did everything that he could to
49:54
make this as strong as a book as it as it could be. And that's my opinion, and I'm entitled to that opinion,
50:01
and I am. And based on what he said, I don't believe that. So,
50:06
I don't know what to tell you, but quickly, can I just say, um, a lot of you will know this already. Sorry, this is a hugely important update to the
50:13
book. Hugely important. Um, I want to make sure that everybody knows this. So,
50:18
I've said it in like three videos so far. I've posted it on Kickstarter. I have sent it out to my email news

50:24
backers and sent two emails to every single person who has pre-ordered this book. But I need to make sure everybody
50:31
knows, okay? I don't want anybody to be left out here. This book was meant to release on the 16th of November. It was
50:38
all set to release on the 16th of November. And then about a month before that, a really exciting and really
50:45
unexpected opportunity came up and I decided to pursue it and see where that
50:50
would go. So I had to make the decision in order to pursue that opportunity to
50:56
delay the release of this book. Now, that is not to say that the book is not coming out. It is still 100% coming out.
51:03
And if you pre-ordered this or you back the Kickstarter, you will 100% you will
51:10
get your copy of the book without question. I am just delaying the release
51:15
date. Most people know about this by now. Most people are chill with it. Um, but I had to do this to give me time to
51:21
explore this opportunity. And I just cannot tell you right now what it is, but I promise you it is something good.
51:27
I'm not just doing this for the sake of it. I promise you it's good. With that being said, as some of you will know by
51:33
now, I have already said if you ordered this as like a Christmas present or you need it by the original release date for
51:40
whatever reason, send me an email to the email address in my author website,
51:46
which is contact evaalexandra.com. Alexandra is spelled with KS and not an
51:51
X. Please give me your order number and I will send you the book on on the
51:57
original timeline. You do not need to justify why to me. Just tell me if you need it. Now, I would suggest if you
52:03
don't need it for a present or you don't need it on time, I would suggest waiting. Um, just because if you get the
52:10

book now, the version you get now may be different to what everybody else gets in the future. But if you do need it, you
52:18
can have it. That is no problem. But I would suggest waiting. Thank you so much for your patience and your support. I
52:23
know this video is not about me, but it seemed like a good time to bring it up because um when I made my last video,
52:29
no, the first video on the Age of Scorpius, I read an excerpt from this and it got me quite a few pre-orders.
52:36
So, you know, this felt like a good chance for everybody to see this update. So, again, I promise you, you will 100%
52:42
get your copies. It is just delayed. But if you need it on time, just send me an email with your order number, not my
52:48
Evangelina SC email because that is for YouTube sponsorships. The email in my author website. So, thank you so much. I
52:55
promise you it's a good thing. Some of you guys may probably have an inkling as to what this is about, but you know, I
53:02
will tell you all the details once I know what's happening and then I will give you a proper um new release date.
53:10
Thank you. I had done everything I could to put out a strong book. I started my
53:15
publishing process in February by hiring two editors with my scholarship money. I
53:20
allocated a vast majority of my startup funds to both a developmental and copy editor, then slowly increased my team of
53:27
artists as the pre-orders began to take off. My developmental edits were returned to me in March before the
53:33
pre-order chaos. My copy edits were returned to me in April in the heat of the pre-order chaos. Now, bear in mind
53:40
that this book came out in June, and that is just simply not enough time to implement meaningful edits. Um,
53:48
I mean, she hired these he hired these people in February. Sorry. Um, he hired
53:54

these people in February. It
54:00
It's your first book. You're going to make mistakes, right? It happens. But it was not enough time. It was not enough
54:06
time. And you should be taking this as a learning experience to go, okay, I need more time for edits next time instead of
54:12
going, I did everything I could and it's actually everybody else's fault except for me. Cuz I really thought we were
54:18
getting to a place here where he was going to grow and he was going to understand and he was going to learn. But you cannot grow and change as a
54:25
person, as a creative, anything like that, as a business owner even if you are not willing to accept what you did
54:31
wrong. And you having done something wrong does not make you some evil horrible person.
54:37
Like at the end of the day, this is a book, right? You didn't do a good job in a book. Nobody's gonna die because you
54:43
didn't do a good job in a book. Like, it's okay. Nobody thinks you're the spawn of Satan. It's all the things you
54:48
did afterwards, like blaming the editors, blaming this random person on
54:55
TikTok, which you're continuing to do here. During this time, I was constantly in shock, exhausted, and overwhelmed
55:01
from a rapid business startup. And in the haze of implementing my copy editor suggestions, I failed to notice that the
55:08
edits themselves were insubstantial.
55:15
So, he is once again blaming the editors. He is once again blaming the editors.
55:22
The editors are going to make suggestions. You need to implement them. That is just the end of it. And the fact that he is constantly now switching this
55:29
like the story keeps switching all the time and this is why I'm getting frustrated. The story keeps switching all the time and to focus on oh the
55:36
editors did not give me good enough edits. That is just not a good enough excuse. This is your book.

55:43
It is your book. You are solely responsible for this and that's the way you wanted it to be. You just need to
55:49
like book up. Is that a is that a phrase? Book up.
55:56
Swear to God, guys, I'm a writer. I know phrases. You need to book up and accept like this is entirely your responsibility and that's okay. But
56:03
continuing to blame the editors in this and like this random guy in Tik Tok, it's just unacceptable to me. To me
56:09
personally, it's just not okay. It's really not. I really feel like your big sister here who just like is getting
56:15
irritated at you, but just wants you to be better. It's so upsetting.
56:21
In September 2025, Reedzy, the platform I hired both my developmental editor and
56:27
copy editor through, initiated an investigation on the edit passes. I'd received and requested third party
56:33
feedback from editors uninvolved in the project. I ended up receiving a full refund from my copy edit pass. Both Rezy
56:40
and the third party editors agreed that the copy edits I received for the first edition of The Age of Scorpius were not
56:45
up to par. So, this is all well and good, right?
56:52
Okay, we'll accept this. We'll accept this as fact. Although, I I believe there's probably some nuance here that
56:57
we're not seeing because normally I wouldn't question that, but
57:02
Milo has shown to me in the past that he will twist things a little bit. And whether that's on purpose or not, I'm
57:08
not suggesting to know. I'm just saying that is what seems to be happening.
57:14
But the issue with your book was not simply copy edits.
57:21
It was not copy edits, right? It was developmental.
57:26

Yes, the book was also unreadable. It was completely unreadable. And the writing itself was bad, but also the
57:34
story didn't make sense. Things didn't line up. You had inconsistencies. Like there was a map that at one point I
57:42
believe the character's father had made for her and then another point there was
57:47
a map that the father's character had bought for her and they were kind of talked about like they were the same map. So it seemed like the story of this
57:53
map got messed up. Like that's not copy edits, you know? It just
57:59
you should also be able to recognize in your own edits that your writing is confusing at least to a degree. Like if
58:05
you're doing it all yourself and the copy editor is not giving you substantial edits, of course things are going to be missed. But you as the
58:11
writer should recognize if what you are what you have written is completely unreadable or not.
58:18
Like even in the revised version of chapter 1, like not the one that people got, not the terrible one that people
58:24
got, the revised better version, even in that when I was reading that, you do not
58:30
name the main character at any point. We do not know who the main character is. All the emphasis is put on the world and
58:38
even the situation itself doesn't really make sense. It's stuff like that. So trying to blame, oh the copy editor, I
58:44
will accept I'm going to take your word for it, right? The copy editor didn't do a good enough job. But that is not the
58:50
excuse that you think it is. It is just not
58:56
like this copy editor is not responsible for the fact that you put out a bad book. And at the beginning, I really
59:02
thought we were getting to a place of you accepting, yeah, I wrote a bad book. Sorry. You know, you don't even have to
59:09
say sorry. You just wrote a bad book. Whatever. But like blaming other people, that's what you should be sorry for in

59:15
my opinion. By the way, everything I'm saying in this video is my opinion. Don't sue me. Thank you. My copy editor reached out to me during Reed's
59:21
evaluation, kindly apologizing and expressing her sympathy about the entire situation.
59:28
But at the time, seeing the July 28th video, I didn't know that. To my understanding, I tried my hardest and
59:34
done everything I could with hiring two experienced editors. I was too late to realize how massive of a mistake I made
59:41
within hours. At least we're accepting it was your mistake. I was receiving hundreds of comments on my videos. My
59:48
worst nightmare was on repeat every minute, every hour of every day. Again,
59:53
it feels like we're trying to now blame this on the guy who made the Tik Tok again, which is just not the case. Like
1:00:00
the book was bad whether this guy reviewed it or not. And if it wasn't him, it was going to be somebody else
1:00:05
because the book was bad and people were reading it and it had so many eyes on it in Tik Tok. People were already saying
1:00:12
that this was bad before he did anything. And to reiterate, he didn't
1:00:17
even name your book. I'm trying to zoom in to read these comments that he leaves
1:00:22
properly, but like they're this is such a finicky thing.
1:00:27
But anyway, an indie author um sorry actually more importantly under this it says the ones that hurt me the most
1:00:34
though they were the accusation I'd intentionally published a bad book scammer. But this is a compilation of
1:00:39
the hateful comments, right? An indie author with 154K followers boasted
1:00:45
spending 10 years on a book and two editors only to have a seemingly
1:00:50
unfinished book which they sold thousands of copies of. This is not a hate comment.
1:00:59
It's a comment that could feel bad to read, but it's not a hate comment. It's

1:01:04
just an opinion on it. I say this as somebody who's on the internet and you,
1:01:09
Milo, are on the internet. You should know what a real hate comment is. Like those are nasty. This is just saying
1:01:16
this is what happened. An indie author with 154,000 followers
1:01:22
boasted spending 10 years on a book and two editors only to have a seemingly unfinished book which they sold
1:01:27
thousands of copies of. That is that's just what happened.
1:01:34
I got retraumatized by her reading it. Dear Lord, regret pre-ordering
1:01:40
after reading, I regret pre-ordering. That is not a hate comment. That's literally somebody saying, "Oh, I
1:01:46
pre-ordered the book and I'm now I'm disappointed because I didn't like it." Because you hyped it up as something that it wasn't. You hyped it up as like
1:01:53
you're a master of writing because you've spent your 10,000 hours, which again is a misunderstanding of how that
1:01:58
actually works. You were a master of writing. You're a child prodigy. You've won awards. You have the editor from The
1:02:05
Hunger Games. You said all of this and it made people think it was a good, excellent, wonderful book and then
1:02:11
people got it and it wasn't. And so they're saying, "I regret pre-ordering it." Yeah. Yeah,
1:02:19
they did. That's not a hate comment, Milo. For God's sake. It also bothers me that she seems to be
1:02:27
deliberately ignoring the I bragged and mocked people about how I was so rich and successful and more talented stick
1:02:34
she ran for so long. You worked for 10 years dot dot dot on
1:02:39
that. Yeah, that one's leaning into mean. That one is leaning into mean. I wouldn't say it's like the worst comment
1:02:45
ever, but it's leaning into mean. I felt so bad for you and wanted to
1:02:51

cheer you on, but I'm shocked you're going to set up pre-orders again for a product you don't have and isn't ready
1:02:57
by setting more pre-orders before the product is ready. That is not a hate comment.
1:03:03
That is that what I'm going to be saying for this whole thing. That is not a hate comment, Milo.
1:03:09
I'm I'm being so for real. This is somebody saying like, "I really was rooting for you." A lot of us were
1:03:14
rooting for you. I'm still rooting for you, but you just make shitty decision after shitty decision. That is actually
1:03:20
really hard to say multiple times really fast. Try it right now. Say it five times fast. Like
1:03:27
that is what you did. You set up pre-orders again for a product that isn't ready when the last time was so
1:03:33
monumentally terrible that your mental health was suffering because of it. You
1:03:39
got thousands of pre-orders, which is a huge success, but the book wasn't good. Now, you need to take the time to hone
1:03:46
the craft of writing and actually write the good book and not put these timelines on it. Those eyes that I have
1:03:51
under here are really freaky. Dear God,
1:03:56
doing everything but writing her book. Again, not a hate comment. That is just
1:04:01
the way it looked to people cuz you were like putting up that thing about like, oh, I'm what was it? I have this
1:04:08
eightstep revision process and it requires me having a team at the beginning of a meeting with the team at
1:04:13
the beginning of the week and then I have a three-hour call with Sie who I'm going to like tell her about like what's
1:04:18
happening in the book. and then she's going to draw as I'm speaking and then I'm going to use that art to then write
1:04:24
stuff and then we're going to have more meetings and blah blah blah. Like that is what it sounded like to people. That's just an opinion.
1:04:31

It's not about the book being bad though. It's genuinely unreadable. There are basic editing errors all the way
1:04:36
through as early as the second sentence. Audrey has all this time and then it gets cut off.
1:04:44
Say it with me everybody. This is not a hate comment. This is critique.
1:04:50
This is critique. It's it it was unreadable.
1:04:57
The book was a mess. The sentences made no sense. Like, why are we framing this as like
1:05:04
hate comments? It's so f Yeah, Jay is a sad. Sorry, a lot of comments I'm reading here. It's
1:05:09
so funny how the longer the saga goes on, the more you see YouTubers reference each other's videos. The real Age of
1:05:16
Scorpius. Age of Scorpius was the friends we made along the way. The Audra Whoa. No. The Audra winter commentary
1:05:23
video cinematic universe was the true multimedia franchises all along.
1:05:29
That's just funny. Like I don't see how this is a hate comment at all.
1:05:35
Update. She took the Sarah and Smidge account down. This is crazy. I have no idea what that's about. What? That's
1:05:41
insane. I will definitely be doing more research into this.
1:05:47
Hey, I need this poor girl to just put down the book and write something else. This is not a hate comment. This is like
1:05:54
a genuine like you are obsessed with this world. You've
1:06:00
said it yourself. It's the only thing that matters to you in your life. And that is not healthy.
1:06:06
That is not. And also, you cannot be doing meaningful writing practice when you're only writing in this world. You
1:06:11
need to just try to write something else if you care about the art of writing. And if you don't care about the art of
1:06:17
writing and you just care about this world, then fine. But stop promoting yourself as like, oh, I'm this prodigy
1:06:24
writer when you're not. And this is also like being really sympathetic to you,

1:06:29
this poor girl. This is crazy. Blah blah blah me. It's giving zero
1:06:36
accountability. And yes, I agree. Nobody asked for more artwork. It's ridiculous. I also really dislike the fact that she
1:06:42
keeps saying we. It is not Is it not your book? I honestly have no respect for her as an author because she clearly
1:06:49
does not care about it and is just being money hungry now. Like, yeah, maybe
1:06:54
that's leaning into something meaner, but I still wouldn't count this as a hate comment. It's just critical of you.
1:07:01
Because this, I'm assuming, is from when uh Milo said, "Okay, we're going to be
1:07:07
re-releasing the book with more art, and therefore it's going to be more expensive." Of course, that's going to rub people the wrong way because all
1:07:13
people actually wanted was a readable, good book, not more art.
1:07:19
That's what they wanted. God, it's so hard to figure out where I am in this mess of things.
1:07:27
Oh, Lord. Like, I'm not trying to be shady, but if the budget had been flipped, less pretty pictures and more,
1:07:33
please rewrite this chapter so it makes sense, we might have had something legendary. This book looked like a
1:07:39
bestseller on the outside, but it read like a and then it's gone. Again, this actually feels like more of a positive
1:07:45
comment. Like, you had all the ingredients there and it could still be something good. Like, how is this something that you're
1:07:53
how is this something that you're framing as like a terrible comment? For
1:07:58
real. It reads like a book put through Google Translate.
1:08:07
I mean, it kind of does though. Milo, come on. I know I'm addressing Milo
1:08:13
directly in this video. I'm not under any impression he's going to watch this. And I also would advise don't watch this
1:08:18

cuz this is not for you. This is for this is for readers and people who want to keep up with this drama really. But I
1:08:26
that's just the way I speak in videos by the way. So you need to fire the whole team. Sorry.
1:08:33
Her editor suspiciously misuses. That's just cut off so I can't even begin to guess what that's about. Genuinely one
1:08:40
of the worst things I've ever had the misfortune of reading. Yeah, maybe that one's leaning into mean, but I still
1:08:45
wouldn't say like it's not directed at you. That's the difference, right? When it's directed at you, it's kind of more
1:08:50
of a hate comment. This woman has given us five plus hours of drama. I am internally indebted to Audra Winter.
1:08:59
I mean, where is the lie? Oh, wow. I'll also take it with a grain of salt, but I'll say I'm not surprised to hear that.
1:09:06
We don't even know what that's in reference to. Holy moly. and my my life crumbled before my eyes
1:09:12
when I saw the comment. Holy moly, her resistant to criticism and critique.
1:09:21
Now, Milo, baby, that's just true. That's just
1:09:26
simply true. And that's something you can work on, by the way. Like, you can work on being
1:09:32
being more receptive of critique and criticism. You really can. Like, you can
1:09:38
get better at that. But it is truth. Her bios, comments, her first Tik Tok account and then her current author
1:09:43
account paint a clear picture of a person who has never handled negativity with a critical open-minded attitude and
1:09:50
has avoided accountability. That's how it looks to a lot of us to be honest. It's still not, you know, the
1:09:57
worst comment you could ever get. In order for that to happen, she actually has to learn how to write first.
1:10:10
This just says internet friends from around the world professionals. Okay. Her writing is not based in her neurode

1:10:16
diverency. Thank you. It's called lack of skill training and refinement. Good lord. This comes based on the fact that
1:10:22
when some of the reactions were coming out and I believe actually some of this people saying like oh the writing is
1:10:28
weird and his response saying it was to do with the main character being nerd virgin. I believe that happened before
1:10:36
this Tik Tok that one person made that was the whole downfall and the reason
1:10:42
all these comments came in. I'm pretty sure all that happened before that Tik Tok was made. You can correct me if I'm
1:10:48
wrong. But uh yeah, people were saying the writing is weird and meandering and
1:10:54
like all of that. It was hard to read and Milo had said, "Oh, it's because the character is neurode divergent." But the
1:11:00
argument I made and the argument a lot of people have made is that like so great to write from whatever
1:11:07
perspective, right? But the example that I used is I have ADHD and if I was to
1:11:13
write a character with ADHD exactly the way my brain works, that would be
1:11:18
entirely unreadable because how the hell am I going to write 50 threads of thought at once plus
1:11:25
musical numbers? Like how am I going to do that? and then moments of silence
1:11:30
which are few and far between but like that would be unreadable. So there's a way to do that to have a neurode
1:11:36
divergent character from the first person or deep POV even if it's from the third person and express that
1:11:44
without making it exactly the way that character thinks because even when you have a
1:11:51
what is the opposite of neurode divergent neurotypical you have a neurotypical uh main character right you
1:11:58
are actually never going to write that character exactly the way they think
1:12:03
like you're not going to have their internal monologue cuz it just it doesn't that

1:12:08
it's not nice to read. Like you have to meet the expectations between like the
1:12:14
character and getting that across that you know they are this way and this is the way they think and see the world and
1:12:20
actually having something that readers can follow along with and makes sense and is enjoyable to read.
1:12:28
Comes off like it was written by a middle schooler. genuinely insane that as a you would go on to insult not only
1:12:35
other editors but that's wild.
1:12:41
Yeah, this one maybe you can say it's a hate comment, right? She's a narcissist point blank. I give you that one. I give
1:12:47
you that one. Going all out. This was what he had said about like going all out on the new
1:12:52
edition with more artwork on terrible writing. Like why can you DM me her W
1:12:58
pad name? I don't think there's a team. Might be people she re reached out to.
1:13:04
Maladaptive daydreaming. It's giving. In fairness, Milo, you did put on the the
1:13:10
black turtleneck and it was kind of giving Elizabeth Holmes,
1:13:17
you know, like I'm no stranger to a black turtleneck. I can't wear one at the moment because I've gained like a ton of weight and um also my my uh teeth
1:13:26
grinding is worse. So that my not only have I gained weight in my face, but my my muscles here have gotten huge from
1:13:33
clenching my jaw and grinding my teeth in my sleep. Uh I need to get something done about that. But uh yeah, so my face
1:13:39
too round for turtleneck, which is sad cuz it's turtleneck weather.
1:13:44
Uh did we read everything? Oh no. Hello. What? More lore. Like she wasn't good
1:13:50
enough for the program. Oop. I said what I said. Her tism is really showing. That's a
1:13:56
hate comment. There you go. That's a hate comment. I couldn't get a single one of her
1:14:02
videos after being online for almost 30 years. I know a grifter when I see one.

1:14:08
Maybe harsh. I wouldn't necessarily call it like the worst comment ever, though. Uh oh. I think we read everything. I
1:14:15
think we read everything. Did we do it? No. As an AUDHD
1:14:21
lesbian writer who writes AUDHD protagonists, she's making us look really bad. I thought I was jealous, but
1:14:27
I'm really just annoyed. She's cocky. That's just an opinion. Very much read like a person. This book very much read
1:14:34
like a person who does not read. I mean, I said that and it does read like somebody who doesn't read, to be honest.
1:14:40
And definitely does not read intelligent. Uh, absolutely none of blank crossed her
1:14:48
mind. Okay, I think we got I we got most of them. Okay, we got most of them. Dear
1:14:55
Lord, that was hard. Everybody, round of applause for all of us for trying to
1:15:01
read that. And by round of applause for all of us, I mean me. Everybody clap for me. Everything is about me all the time.
1:15:10
Scammer. That word. It was the worst burn by far. I had reinvested all my funds from the pre-orders back to
1:15:16
bettering this book. I'd never properly paid myself. I didn't feel the need to. If Guardian was the thing that mattered
1:15:22
to me most in my life anyway. I was plenty happy bringing other people joy with my world. I started a company,
1:15:29
tried to give some artists a secure job, and adjusted into a space to pack and ship 5,000 books. All I wanted to do was
1:15:36
tell my stories. Each refund process turned a part of me to ash, a thing I'd
1:15:41
worked so hard on. Someone hated it so much they wanted to return my art back to me. It wasn't good enough for them.
1:15:48
I'm not really seeing how that's connected to the scammer thing. Like people can request a refund without
1:15:54

thinking you're a scammer. I still don't think people were necessarily um owed refunds. And I know people disagree with
1:16:01
me on that, but I still think like you got a product at the end of the day. Um, but like yeah, I can hear I can
1:16:08
understand how people think you're a scammer would be difficult, right? And I don't think that he's a scammer. I
1:16:14
really don't. But I think we need to accept the fact of the matter which book not good. Next, it was the conspiracies.
1:16:21
Maybe I was a Nepo baby or an industry plant. What if I paid for my followers? Did I constantly monetize my videos?
1:16:28
Surely I used AI. People started taking the word of others for fact. Again, I
1:16:33
understand that that's hard. Unfortunately, that is to a degree the nature of the internet. If you're online
1:16:41
in any way, even if you're not in controversy, you are going to have stuff like this.
1:16:47
You're going to have stuff like this said about you. And it's really hard to deal with for some people. But you can
1:16:52
learn to deal with it better. You really can. No matter what you do, there are going to be conspiracies. And it is
1:16:58
hard. and I understand you've had a tough time with it, but you can you can grow a tougher skin.
1:17:05
I'd been genuine and honest as I could in my content. People were assuming the truth behind words I'd never even said.
1:17:11
I was being attacked, harassed by repeat individuals, and told some of the crulest things I'd ever heard in my
1:17:17
life. I don't know if those comments that we just read are meant to be examples of the crulest things she'd
1:17:23
ever heard he'd ever heard in his life. Apologies. But if they are meant to be examples of
1:17:30
the hardest things he's ever heard in his life, then
1:17:40

then honestly your life has to be pretty good. Like I'm just going to say it. Like I was debate the silence there was me debating whether I should say that.
1:17:46
But if those are the worst things you've ever heard, then people have been very nice to you.
1:17:51
Like I just clearly Milo is somebody who's
1:17:57
very sensitive and has a hard time dealing with this stuff and that is understandable. But the problem again
1:18:02
and again and again is that he keeps trying to put it on all of us. He keeps trying to make it our problem, our
1:18:08
fault. Whereas like yes, some people might have been mean to you, but you are
1:18:14
responsible for managing your own feelings as a creator on the internet. it
1:18:22
like obviously there's people who go too far but for the most part you are responsible for that and you keep trying
1:18:28
to put it on all of us you need to work on that if you want to be online you need to work on that it is
1:18:36
it is just the fact of the matter like again I'm a really sensitive person if we're talking about zodiac signs I'm a
1:18:41
cancer right I'm a cancer with a scorpio moon
1:18:46
I am emotional turbulent even water sign, right? So, I
1:18:55
get it. I get it. But you can't project that onto other people and make it their problem to deal with when it's not. It
1:19:01
is your own issue that you need to work on. And I'm sorry it hurt. I really am.
1:19:07
I don't want you to be in any sort of distress. I do not want anybody to be in any sort of distress.
1:19:15
But it's the using this again and again and again when the problem at its core
1:19:22
is the book was not good and that's it. That's all it is. That's all it is. The book was not good but you keep making it
1:19:29
worse. Oh dear.
1:19:36

I've been genuine and honest. Blah blah blah blah. I was being attacked, harassed by repeated individuals and
1:19:41
told some of the crulest things I'd ever heard in my life. Even when I tried to speak about how much it was hurting me, I was told I was being too dramatic. Be
1:19:48
emotional and I'm an attention seeker. Be casual and I'm too informal. Be formal and I'm too corporate. Be genuine
1:19:55
and I'm too immature. Be confident and I'm narcissistic. Be authentic and I'm pity marketing. Be hurt and I'm too
1:20:01
sensitive. Be proud of myself and I'm too cocky. Redo the book and I'm money obsessed. Nothing I could say was the
1:20:07
right thing to say. Okay, they're young. Sorry, that kind of
1:20:13
caught me off guard there. The nightmare only worsened. I was cybersttoal by complete strangers who began obsessing
1:20:19
over my personal life. Someone tracked down my full legal name and encouraged other users to comment it on all the
1:20:26
videos they could find about me. Okay, again, I think we all agree, right? Don't [__] do that. Don't do stuff
1:20:33
like that. We can sit here and we can talk about drama, but you cannot bring it to somebody's real life. And if
1:20:38
somebody doesn't want their name out there, they don't want their name out there. Like people had, and I talked
1:20:44
about this previously, people had found Milo's real name. Um, and that was something that was private. So, we never
1:20:50
discussed it here. We never did. I never pointed anyone in the direction of it because I think I and my whole audience,
1:20:58
I hope, understand that that is just not cool. And it's not necessary to understanding the the controversy. We
1:21:04
just want to catch up with the news basically. We want to know what's going on. We want to
1:21:10
investigate. We want to give our opinions and our thoughts, but we do not bring it to somebody's real life. We do

1:21:17
not dig up information that they do not want dug up about their personal life. And the people who did that were some
1:21:23
terrible bad actors. So, I'm sorry that happened to you. I feel there's a level of trying to like
1:21:30
lump everybody together here, but again, the people who did this, don't don't [__] do that, okay? Don't do it.
1:21:37
Others had to expose the GoFundMe I used to crowdfund my service dog, Smidge.
1:21:43
Smidge is considered a medical device prescribed to me by my doctor. Half her cost was paid for by my state's
1:21:49
vocational program, and I crowdfunded the other half. With my disability thrown out the window, I was accused of
1:21:54
being moneyhungry grifter who stole donations. I made a Tik Tok page a couple years ago back to help crowdfund
1:22:02
for Smidge. I had no idea I hadn't deleted it. I deliberately avoided talking about Smidge on my main page as
1:22:09
I'm someone who is recognized in the public. And again, I'm just going to point out we did not talk about like I
1:22:15
mentioned, there was so much drama about the whole dog thing because it got brought up uh on the Tik Tok, we did not
1:22:22
discuss that here because I like I said and like you all agreed that was not
1:22:27
relevant to this. That was about Milo's personal life and we never delved into
1:22:33
that really besides talking about the Finland thing mostly because I wanted to say like this is not tax guys can't do.
1:22:41
I developed agorophobia for the first time. I stopped leaving my apartment. I stopped eating. I stopped sleeping. I
1:22:47
covered up my tired eyes and stressed swollen face with a mask of makeup. I tried to pretend like being perceived
1:22:53
wasn't impacting me much more deeply than I had realized. I lost weight, reduced to skin and bones. I struggled
1:23:00

to speak, struggled to talk, struggled to feel my passion. I fantasized death, haunted by the ghosts of my mistake.
1:23:06
Without any sense of safety, I could not find comfort. and I hadn't recognized myself in the mirror for months in the
1:23:12
first place. I tried to reassure myself by reading my own book. Surely, it
1:23:18
couldn't be that bad. It was that bad. Thank you. Sorry.
1:23:24
Sorry. Cuz I felt like I was going crazy here for this whole thing. Thank you for
1:23:29
recognizing that it is that bad. But I'm just going to say the fact that you didn't realize it until then points out
1:23:36
to me that in my opinion you did not put enough effort into creating as strong a book as you can because if you weren't
1:23:44
still on just the first or second draft, you would have read it and recognized that the book was not good. It is well
1:23:50
known that you need to step away just for a tiny bit of time from your like first, second, third draft, right before
1:23:56
you go do more edits because you need some time away. you should have recognized beforehand.
1:24:02
But I'm glad we're recognizing it now. But all I'm saying is like it just feels like not enough editing was done. I
1:24:09
couldn't believe myself. The errors I'd made, the mistakes I'd passed right by. It wasn't even close to what I knew I
1:24:15
was capable of. Why did I release a debut so weak compared to other writing I am so much prder of? What in the world
1:24:22
happened? What was I thinking? Was I thinking? No. No. I couldn't have
1:24:28
thought clearly when I was living in so much shock and over stimulation during the editing phases. My writing was
1:24:34
confusing. My voice was fragmented. My characters weren't shining through. I was furious at myself, swallowed by my
1:24:40
own humiliation and enragement, sickened by my own audacity. I am so glad you

1:24:46
recognized this. My sales came to a screaming stop. My revenue projections were thrown out the
1:24:52
window and a team of 20 artists I was either contracting or employing. All of them were furoughed. I failed them with
1:24:59
my entrepreneurial attitude. I took financial risks and put all six figures back into my business. My business, the
1:25:06
same one that suddenly stopped making money. Why the hell didn't I put some back into my savings? I couldn't even
1:25:12
stay afloat myself. How I care more about guardian than protecting my own livelihood.
1:25:18
I said this before. All the the Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa.
1:25:26
When I speak for a long time, my mouth gets tangled
1:25:31
and stuff like that happens. All of the business decisions that Milo made were terrible. They just simply were. And I
1:25:38
said this before, and I am not like a master business owner. As I've said, I have been doing YouTube professionally
1:25:44
for 5 years, and I am not an LLC because that is just too complicated for me. Like, I don't I don't understand that
1:25:51
stuff. I don't like doing that stuff. I don't even file my own taxes. I have an accountant do that for me because I will
1:25:57
[__] it up, right? And I do not want to go to prison. So, I just give them everything. I'm like, "Help me. You do
1:26:03
it for me." But I can still recognize that every business deci decision that was made was a bad one.
1:26:11
With that being said, Milo is still young and has time to learn from this. And it is just a shame that he didn't save any money. It really is. It's a
1:26:19
shame. And then it hit me. If I didn't turn it around fast, I was back to square one.
1:26:26
But I failed at that, too. Here we are, back at square one. The fire has been extinguished. There is no more
1:26:33

underbrush to fuel it. Yet, many of you who are reading this will try to take these same words and use them against
1:26:38
me. I want to be so clear. I'm not trying to use anything against Milo here. I just think I'm tired of the
1:26:45
excuses. I still wish the best for him. And I think he's gonna read write a good book, right? I
1:26:52
do think eventually he is gonna write a good book. Am I gonna pre-order the book? Absolutely not. You can pre-order
1:26:59
it. I'm not telling you not to. But I personally am going to wait for reviews and if there's any good reviews, yeah, I'm going to get it. I'm going to give
1:27:05
it a go. And you're not understanding the amount of people who really are
1:27:13
rooting for you. So many people are rooting for Milo in this situation. So many people want him to succeed. So many
1:27:20
people are ready for this to turn around and be a success story.
1:27:26
Yes, it is so much easier to focus on the negativity. Those voices are louder. Those voices are the ones that ruin your
1:27:32
day. It's the fact of the matter. I can read my comments. Everyone will be like,
1:27:37
"Love the video. Hope you're well. Your cat is cute. Your hair looks nice today." And then I'll see one comment
1:27:42
that says, "You're such a [__] idiot." And I'm like, "Oh yeah, okay. I guess I'll go die then." Because again,
1:27:50
real recognizes real. I'm dramatic, right? You know what I do now? I read my
1:27:56
comments less often. I read them in the first like hour after the video comes out and then every now and again I'll
1:28:02
check. But as soon as I see like one that starts to upset me, I just stop reading them for like a couple of hours
1:28:08
or until the next day because I know once I start getting upset, I'll spiral.
1:28:14
And that is me learning how to adapt to that and how to deal with that and still
1:28:20

be able to hear the good voices in my audience because they are there. And it's the same for Milo. The negative
1:28:27
voices are going to be the loudest in this situation. They're going to be the ones that you focus on more. They're
1:28:33
going to be the ones that you dwell on. But that does not take away from the fact that there is people here who still
1:28:38
want you to succeed. They're maybe not going to pre-order your book because of what happened. But if you write a good
1:28:44
book, they're going to want to read it. And you have so many eyes on you that you could turn this around and it could be amazing. And a lot of people don't
1:28:51
have that. And there I know this has been a nightmare situation, but I feel like there's a
1:28:57
level of gratitude that maybe you should try and get to because it will help you realize
1:29:02
that you have a lot of opportunity that a lot of authors don't have. You had the
1:29:08
worst experience that an author could have, but you also have the chance to turn this around and make something
1:29:14
great. And people will really be here for it. You and I were more similar than you
1:29:20
realize. I just said real recognizes real. So, I think we're think we're getting it here. There is a fundamental
1:29:26
value we all share as writers and artists. We are people who want to fight for creative representation in an era
1:29:32
where it is so easy for us to catch fire with a spark. With these high disturbance fires, there is a greater
1:29:39
threat. A looming store storm, not a storm, striking bolts into each of our forests and igniting our worst fears.
1:29:46
The heated climate, the burning political scene across the world, especially in America, drives us artists
1:29:51
out and starves us for sustenance. So, we begin to compete with our neighbors for resources. The heat, it unleashes,
1:29:58

the invasive species, the massive swarms of industries and monopolies who will prey on our work. Our communities of
1:30:04
artists are constantly plagued by intrusive fears that the beetle horde forces into our heartwood. This is not
1:30:11
just my forest on fire. It is all of ours. As creative workers, we are acquainted with the burns of both
1:30:16
rejection and exploitation. Get on your feet, clear the underbrush, and let yourself burn to rebirth if you
1:30:24
must. Then take that fury upon the monopolies, exhaling their waste into our heated climate. Uplift each fellow
1:30:31
life form in your communities. Stand up. Spark the flame with the oil leaking from the systems cogs. Our fire cells
1:30:40
struggle to regrow after high disturbance fires. The heat of a raging inferno can destroy the seeds in pine
1:30:45
cones. It unlinks the ecosystem on a molecular level. There is no such thing
1:30:51
as a monocular level. Or maybe there is. Who knows? I don't know what I'm talking about. The microbiome is disrupted. The
1:30:59
connection between tree roots are severed. Organizations like Colorado's Wildlands Restoration volunteers help
1:31:05
the forest regrow through ecological restoration practices, often by planting
1:31:11
droughtresistant ponderosa vines
1:31:16
and high disturbance fire scars. That's where community becomes critically important. These organizations often
1:31:23
rely on volunteers to restore and heal the land. I'd like to think that my high disturbance fire scars had to be touched
1:31:30
by other human hands to regrow. I am endlessly grateful for those cheering me on, believing in me, and pushing me to
1:31:37
get back up. Yes, we recognize and we are grateful for the people who are there to support you. Thank the Lord in
1:31:43

heaven. There is hope. There is hope. There are so many people living the values and morals I've written about
1:31:50
here. The positive messages kept all of us at World of Guardian going. I found
1:31:55
deep value in the quiet encouragement amongst a storm of hatred. Those voices sang with hope through my recovery.
1:32:02
Thank you to all of those who have sent me words of encouragement. Even though I can't personally respond to every message, I think of them daily. Those of
1:32:10
you who still believe in me through it all. My team and family have also been incredibly supportive of me during this
1:32:16
tough time both in my company and in my life. They are my pack, my people, and I
1:32:21
cannot thank them enough for their trust and love for art. I wouldn't have been able to begin regrowing without the
1:32:28
strength others gave to me out of the kindness of their own hearts. Our scars can only begin to heal when the
1:32:34
community bands together. As in the forest, as in the artists, as in the writers.
1:32:40
Oh, thank thank you. Thank you. We're recognizing some good things. It was the, you know, the middle section of
1:32:46
that. I had a lot to say. We I don't have to repeat it. We You just watch that. I just said it. We all know what's
1:32:52
going on. If you don't know what I said, you know, then go back. But um yeah, the
1:32:58
ending was good. The middle part shaky as all hell. I had a lot of issues with the middle part, but at least the ending
1:33:04
ends on a good note. And um environment good, healing good, focusing on
1:33:10
gratitude good. uh some footnotes and then there is an
1:33:16
artist statement. So where am I now and what led me here?
1:33:23
This piece which started in August was written in Colorado, Washington, Alaska, Kansas, North Carolina, Finland, Sweden,
1:33:31
and at last Norway. Here in Norway, I am working alongside Sauli, World of

1:33:36
Guardians art director, as we strive to reimagine the second version of the Age of Scorpius. Turns out a lot can happen
1:33:43
in two months time span. There are far more stories behind this piece than I could ever begin to touch on in an
1:33:48
artist statement. The first draft was angry and furious. I wrote a lot about wolves on fire being cornered and
1:33:55
lashing back at hatred. As I relocated from Colorado to Finland, my perspective began to shift. I re-evaluated what I
1:34:02
wanted to do with the voice I was given as a public figure. While America's fascist government demanded more logging
1:34:08
and more oil at the expense of our natural lands, it hit me that I needed to refocus my attention on what matters
1:34:14
the most. This piece became heavily ecologically focused when the Trump administration instructed removal of a
1:34:20
20 plus year old law protecting the tongas from logging. It became clearer what I needed to speak for as I drove
1:34:27
out of the hodras
1:34:33
hod hodra ho I'm sorry
1:34:39
h o h o h o h o h o h o h o h o h o h oders smoke hazed roads that's not right as I stepped into the Arctic circle and
1:34:44
felt its warm October days it developed through sie somehow braving and even
1:34:50
enjoying my forestry yap sessions while I worked to conceptualize iz my story as an ecological metaphor. Though I didn't
1:34:57
initially plan for to come out in this piece with the number of eyes on me, I
1:35:02
realized I could utilize the inevitable internet response I received from coming out. The more I give people to talk
1:35:08
about, the more eyes on ecology. No amount of internet hatred for my gender identity could ever compare to the
1:35:14

humiliation I experienced in the wake of the age of Scorpius's release. As soon as we mentioned on Patreon that I was
1:35:20
relocating to Finland, someone tracked down my Facebook marketplace listing with my legal name and shared my
1:35:26
apartment online. Yeah, that was unfortunate. We did talk about the um Facebook
1:35:31
Marketplace thing, but obviously I cut out anything that was identifying of where the apartment was, but the person
1:35:37
who did that really needed to read a little bit further. We really got to be careful online,
1:35:42
guys. Beyond the veil of many internet conspiracies concerning my
1:35:47
disappearance, I simply crashed out and I decided I need to set my life on fire. Moved out of my apartment in Colorado,
1:35:53
dropped my stuff in Kansas and flew to Helsinki. Sully welcome me to Finland with the goal of kicking ass for
1:36:00
Guardian. As we we rework the Age of Scorpius, we are working closely together to weave a story unified with
1:36:06
pros and illustration. We'll have more to announce soon. At this time, I ask
1:36:12
you please respect my privacy. I will not be showing my face in any video or content until the release of the second
1:36:18
edition unless I feel comfortable enough to do so earlier. But that does not mean we're coming we're not coming back
1:36:24
strong. Does not mean we're not coming back strong. We'll be sharing teasers, trailers, and excerpts of book content,
1:36:30
including the chapters we already promised to you here and on Patreon as Sullie and I recreate The Age of
1:36:36
Scorpius. Our goal is still late spring 2026, so all paperback and hardcover
1:36:41
pre-orders for the second edition are continuing as normal. We've also put the first edition ebook up on our website at
1:36:48
a discount because I'm tired of my work getting pirated. Fair.
1:36:54

Good. Thank you for your continued support and I hope I taught you a little something about forests. One more thing
1:37:01
I want to point out though, and while I I accept that the ending of that was
1:37:08
wonderful and there was a lot of good things to take from that, there are still some issues, mainly the ones that
1:37:14
I pointed out already, like the fact that Milo is trying to blame still that
1:37:20
one Tik Tok and also throw the editors under the bus when directly on this same
1:37:25
website, we have an FAQ where one of the questions is, I've heard a lot online about The Age of Scorpius. What is going
1:37:32
on? The Age of Scorpius is author Milo Winter's debut YA fantasy novel, and it
1:37:37
blew up beyond our wildest dreams, selling over 5,000 copies on pre-order.
1:37:42
In the mayhem of suddenly establishing a business and fulfilling thousands of orders, Milo did not give the final
1:37:49
stages of editing on the book the undivided attention and energy they should have. The book went out with far
1:37:55
too many errors and unedited pros for a release of its size. that's on us.
1:38:02
So that is not making the book as strong as it could be. That's not doing everything you can
1:38:08
possibly do to make the book as strong as it could be. But with that being said, a lot of what was said here was
1:38:14
good. And I still think this could turn around. I don't know if I have high hopes for it, but
1:38:21
I do think it's a possibility that this could be really, really good if it's given the time and care that it needs.
1:38:27
And I'm glad that at least Milo recognized that, hey, I have a lot of eyes on me. Let me at least try and do
1:38:33
something good with this. And that is talk about the environment and stuff because that is obviously important. We all live here. Would be so great if we
1:38:41
didn't all like burn to death to knock on wood there, you know. But
1:38:47

that's kind of where we're at now. There have been a few Tik Toks, but they're mostly just reiterating some of the stuff that is being said on the website
1:38:53
and about pre-orders and stuff like that. Um, but for now, I think there
1:38:58
isn't going to be anything to talk about. Honestly, as far as the whole Age
1:39:04
of Scorpius drama goes, I think this might be the end of it. I'm hoping this is the end of it and that updates from
1:39:10
here on out are going to be focused on the book and the art and that things are going to be good. And maybe when the
1:39:16
book finally comes out, I'll give it a read. And if it's good, we'll talk about it. If it's not, we'll talk about it.
1:39:22
But I hope everybody here understands that there is no malice in what I'm saying. I have negative things to say
1:39:28
about this situation, of course. But I mean no hatred, no malice, no anything
1:39:33
negative behind it. Um, okay. I do mean negative things behind it, but I don't
1:39:38
mean it, you know, maliciously. Um, I I truly just am frustrated by a lot of the
1:39:44
aspects of the situation, but overall, I just want this person to do well. And at
1:39:50
the end of the day, I don't think it's that deep. Like, I don't hate this person for writing a bad book, you know,
1:39:57
and I don't think anybody really does. Um, some people take it too far, you
1:40:02
know, when they were saying he was running to Europe to evade taxes, which like you do not understand how wide
1:40:09
reaching the tax man is. Like that just doesn't work. Um, so you know, there's
1:40:15
stuff like that. But overall, I just hope we're all on the same page here that I do not have any hatred in my heart for Milo Winter and I have never
1:40:22
had any hatred and I do not have any mal intent here. I truly want this to work
1:40:28
out well and I h I have maybe a good feeling and like I said, I kind of hope this is going to be the end of it till
1:40:37

the book comes out and then hopefully that's a positive story. So, let me know in the comments what you think. Are you
1:40:42
optimistic, too? I know we had a lot of negative things to say about it. I'm still pissed off about the blaming the
1:40:48
editors and that Tik Tok, but can't keep harping on that forever.
1:40:54
But yeah, let me know in the comments what you think about all of that. And if you don't want to leave me a comment about that, then leave me a comment that tells me your zodiac sign, your star
1:41:01
sign. You know, I told you I'm a Cancer with the Scorpio moon. My uh rising is
1:41:07
in Virgo, in case you're interested. And uh what else I got? I got Venus, Leo,
1:41:15
Capricorn, Neptune. I can't remember the rest of my stuff. It's been a while since I did that. You
1:41:21
know what? Here you go. Go crazy. Here's my chart. We got Sun and Cancer, Moon
1:41:26
and Scorpio, Mercury, Leo, Venus, Leo, Mars, Libra, Jupiter, Aquarius, Saturn,
1:41:31
Aries, Uranus and Aquarius, Neptune and Capricorn, Pluto and Sagittarius, the end node, Virgo. There you go. Go
1:41:38
[__] nuts, lads. Does anybody care about this? Probably
1:41:43
not. Isn't there like a little picture that you get? Yeah, this thing. Go wild.
1:41:50
Tell me how terrible I am. Although I feel like this is a pretty balanced chart.
1:41:57
But I would say that right since my Venus is in Leo. Anyway, sorry. I just
1:42:02
thought that would be fun to do that to close out the Age of Scorpius drama hopefully. Like, comment, share, follow
1:42:08
me on social media. I'm baloscop everywhere. You can check out my author website, evaalexander.com, linked in the description. You can also
1:42:15
check out my Patreon. It's also, you know what, everything is in the description. Everything you could ever want. Anything you could ever want is in
1:42:22
the description. Obviously, check out Milo's piece because it does have links to important ecological stuff, of
1:42:27

course. And um anything else? I feel like I'm missing something. Feel like I was supposed to say something else. I
1:42:33
know what it is. I'm not shilling my book to you because it's delayed at the moment. So, I don't
1:42:39
want to tell you guys to pre-order. You still can obviously um if you want to.
1:42:44
By the way, I just want to quickly say thank you for 1,000 pre-orders. That is insane numbers. Thank you so much. I am
1:42:51
eternally grateful and I still promise you will be getting your copies. So, have an absolutely wonderful rest of
1:42:58
your day and I will see you in the next one. Hi.

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